

Spackman, H.E.

1919

[U.S. Treasury,
Bureau of the Mint,
Washington, D.C.]

Washington, Jan. 22, 1919.

B. L. Belden, Esq.,

Secy. American Numismatic Society,

New York City.

Sir:

In the "American Journal of Numismatics" (New York), January 1870, an article was published entitled "The New Pattern Pieces for Fractional Currency." If you have a complete file, will you be obliging enough to inform me whether in the years 1869, 1870, 1871 and 1872 the same Journal contained any announcement of a "COMMERCIAL Dollar" ? I would like to find the earliest public reference to such a pattern piece.

Very respectfully,

H E Spackman

(Postage enclosed)

Copy of postal sent to Mr. Belden February 6th, 1919.

A letter from Washington addressed to the Secretary of the American Numismatic Society January 22 has not yet been answered. If Mr. Belden is no longer Secretary, or is absent, will some other representative of the Society be kind enough to reply ?

February 4.

February 7th, 1919.

Mr. H. E. Spackman,
900 F. Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of January 22nd has after some considerable delay been referred to me for reply. I do not find any reference to the commercial dollar in the years you mention. If by this you mean the pattern piece having that designation on the reverse it is described, as you probably know, in Adams "Pattern, Trial and Experimental Pieces", but I have not located a reference to it in our Journal. There is a reference to the so-called trade dollar in 1874 but I assume that this is not what you want. We recently had a very careful index of our entire Journal prepared, but I have been unable to locate any reference either there or hastily going through the numbers mentioned by you.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.